THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Economic reforms hitting domestic industry

1958. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that economic reforms are being introduced at the expense of the domestic industry and the nation;

(b) how the use of foreign brand name would help the economy or it would generate unfair competition to domestic industry; and

(c) the reasons why multinationals do not introduce good quality products efficiently and sell under Indian brand name and give a fair competition to domestic, national companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): It would not be correct to say that economic reforms are being introduced at the expense of domestic industry or the nation. Available data indicate that there has been an overall improvement in the investment climate, the performance of industry as measured by the Index of Industrial Production (Base:1980-81-100) has improved considerably during April-December 1992 93 as compared to the corresponding period in the previous year, and the rate of inflation as measured by the Wholesale Price Index (Base:1981-82-100) has declined progressively from 16.7 per cent in August 1991 to 6.7 per cent in April 1993.

(b) and (c) Even earlier, the registration or use of foreign trade marks was not prohibited under the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958, although the use was discouraged under the administrative guidelines for foreign collaborations, especially for domestic sale of consumer products. However, with the introduction of liberalised industrial and economic policies which encourage foreign investment and collaborations, the choice of brand names, domestic or foreign, is left to the choice of the investor. This is expected to enable Indian made products to compete internationally and also lead to greater competition and better quality of products

Closure of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation

1959. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to close down the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Unit in Durgapur, West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the workers of his unit would be rendered jobless; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not utilising the imported machinery of this Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.